

FY2026 Funding Plan to Encompass Student Wellness and Success and DPIA

Identification of Need – Student Wellness & Success Funds

The current state budget allocates funds for Student Wellness. The Hamilton Local School District is committed to addressing the mental and emotional health of students by providing all students with the opportunity to receive support services through a partnership with Ohio Guidestone and the ESC of Central Ohio (ESCCO). The district continues to build an MTSS framework that is responsive to students' needs, with the goal of positively impacting student performance and keeping students in class at higher rates.

Plan for the use of the Funds

The Student Wellness and Success funds for FY2026 will be used in the following ways:

- A. Mental Health Services:* Funding will be used to provide three (3) Success Coaches for the elementary and middle school level and two (2) guidance counselors at the elementary level to support student needs and provide additional behavioral health support. District contracts with ESCCO for their specialized on-site support team to support staff in MTSS/PBIS, Trauma Informed/responsive approaches, Restorative approaches- Problem solving and relationship repair.
- B. Physical Health Care Services:* Funding will be used to provide a Nurse and three (3) aides to provide additional healthcare supports during the school day.
- C. Prevention Services:* Mental Health contract services provided by “Ohio Guidestone” and ESCCO that focuses on School-Based Behavioral Health, consultation, and prevention. We will provide support to students and staff to promote mental health, substance abuse, crisis, case management, prevention and other support services to children, adolescents, and young adults from Pre-Kindergarten through High School and beyond.

Identification of Need – DPIA Funds

The current state budget allocates funds for Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid. The Hamilton Local School District has established goals to raise and improve all district component grades indicated by the State Report Card, as well as ensuring all students feel safe and connected to peers, adults, and curriculum by the end of the 2025-26 school year.

Plan for the use of the Funds

The Disadvantage Pupil Impact Aid funds for FY2026 will be used to support established initiatives/activities in the following ways:

- A. *Academic interventions for students in grades 7 through 12:* The district employs one middle school and two high school guidance counselors. They collaborate with teachers to provide academic interventions for all students. The district also has a program for grades 6th - 8th grades that provides for one period each day of intervention for all students in these grades.
- B. *Dropout Prevention:* The district employs a Work Based Learning Coordinator, a Career Based Intervention Teacher, a credit recovery administrator, and an Alternative Program Coordinator, all of which collaborate with the high school guidance department with the goal of dropout prevention.
- C. *Maintaining the 1:1 technology initiative:* The district will continue to purchase new Chromebooks annually to maintain a replacement schedule that will allow all students to have functioning technology. Purchase academic software and other technology software that maintains the ability for the 1:1 technology to work in all the school facilities.
- D. *Wellness Coordination:* The district hired a Whole Child Support Director to administer the district wellness program. Part of this program is the implementation of Franklin Covey's "Leader in Me"

programming for grades PreK through 12th grade. The Leader in Me program helps students become leaders by teaching them important skills for life. Based on Stephen Covey's "7 Habits of Highly Effective People," it teaches things like setting goals, working together, and solving problems. Students learn to take responsibility and be proactive, which helps them grow and succeed in school and beyond. This program is all about building confidence and leadership qualities in every student.

- a. Employ Successful Habits teachers (3) that will teach an elective course that uses the curriculum provided by "Leader in Me" in grades 1 – 8.
- b. Employ a Student Experience Coordinator who will work in concert with the high school guidance counselors to help any students experiencing non-academic issues at the high school.

E. *Extended School Day and School Year*: The district has kindergarten all day, every day for all kindergarten students in the district.

F. *School Safety*: The district has a contract with the City of Obetz for a school resource officer. The district also has a CCTV security system at all schools.